

Philippines

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Philippines GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components the Philippines could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Philippines GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 2-4, conducted in 2003.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for the Philippines. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 99.3%, the student response rate was 85.4%, and the overall response rate was 84.8%. A total of 7,478 students participated in the Philippines GYTS.

Prevalence

41.9% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 54.2%, Girl = 31.5%)
 19.6% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 26.5%, Girl = 13.0%)
 15.0% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 21.8%, Girl = 8.8%)
 8.2% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 10.9%, Girl = 5.7%)
 13.8% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

29.6% think boys and 15.4% think girls who smoke have more friends
 17.9% think boys and 11.8% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

21.3% usually smoke at home
 57.4% buy cigarettes in a store
 62.8% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

57.6% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 59.0% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 88.7% think smoking should be banned from public places
 71.7% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 55.7% have one or more parents who smoke
 12.2% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

88.2% want to stop smoking
 86.9% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 90.4% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

90.3% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 87.6% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 81.7% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 16.4% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 13.9% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

68.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 62.2% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 67.5% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- Almost 2 in 10 students currently use any form of tobacco; 15% currently smoke cigarettes; 8% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is high –almost 6 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; Over 5 in 10 have parents who smoke.
- 7 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- 6 in 10 students are exposed to smoke in public places.
- Almost 9 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- More than 8 in 10 smokers want to quit.
- 9 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; over 8 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in the past 30 days.